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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Canceled)

1 2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Canceled)

1 5. (Canceled)

1 6. (Currently Amended) A method for performing
2 participant identification in a conference of a plurality of
3 participants, comprising the steps of:
4 performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
5 change in an active participant among a set of the plurality of
6 participants using an endpoint telecommunication unit by the
7 endpoint telecommunication unit whereby the speech algorithm
8 only determines the change in the active participant and not the
9 identity of the active participant;
10 signaling the detected change to a conference unit by
11 the endpoint telecommunication unit by transmission of a

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12 message which contains no audio information from the active
13 participant; and

14 determining the identity of a new active participant of
15 the set of the plurality of participants by the conference unit
16 performing voice recognition to identify the new active
17 participant in response to the signaled change whereby the
18 conference unit processes speech information from only the
19 endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 7. (Canceled)

1 8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6
2 wherein the endpoint telecommunication unit is a
3 telecommunication terminal.

1 9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6
2 wherein the endpoint telecommunication unit is a remote switch
3 connecting a telecommunication terminal used by a subset of
4 the set of the plurality of participants to the conference unit.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the step
2 of detecting comprises determining a use of a speakerphone on
3 the endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a
2 conference, comprising:

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3 a conference unit;
4 a system controller;
5 a plurality of endpoint telecommunication units;
6 system controller establishing the conference for a set
7 of participants using a plurality of endpoint telecommunication
8 units;
9 one of the plurality of endpoint telecommunication
10 units providing service for a subset of the set of the plurality of
11 participants, performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
12 change in a new active participant of the subset of the set of the
13 plurality of participants whereby the speech algorithm only
14 determines the change in the active participant and not the
15 identity of the active participant and signaling the change to the
16 system controller by transmission of a message which contains
17 no audio information from the active participant;
18 system controller responsive to the signaled change to
19 request the conference unit identify the new active participant of
20 the subset of the set of the plurality of participants; and
21 the conference unit identifying the new active
22 participant by performing voice recognition to identify the new
23 active participant and signaling the identity to the system
24 controller.

1 12. (Canceled)

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1 13. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 11
2 wherein the one of the plurality of endpoint telecommunication
3 units is a telecommunication terminal.

1 14. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 11
2 wherein the one of the endpoint telecommunication units is a
3 remote switch connecting a telecommunication terminal used
4 by a subset of the set of the plurality of participants to the
5 conference unit.

1 15. (Canceled)

1 16. (Canceled)

1 17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Canceled)

1 19. (Canceled)

1 20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable
2 medium comprising computer-executable instructions
3 configured for:

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4 performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
5 change in an active participant among a set of the plurality of
6 participants using an endpoint telecommunication unit by the
7 endpoint telecommunication unit whereby the speech algorithm
8 only determines the change in the active participant and not the
9 identity of the active participant;
10 signaling the detected change to a conference unit by
11 the endpoint telecommunication unit by transmission of a
12 message which contains no audio information from the active
13 participant; and
14 determining the identity of a new active participant of
15 the set of the plurality of participants by the conference unit
16 performing voice recognition to identify the new active
17 participant in response to the signaled change whereby the
18 conference unit processes speech information from only the
19 endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 22. (Canceled)

1 23. (Previously Amended) The computer-readable
2 medium of claim 21 wherein the endpoint telecommunication
3 unit is a telecommunication terminal.

1 24. (Previously Amended) The computer-readable
2 medium of claim 21 wherein the endpoint telecommunication
3 unit is a remote switch connecting a telecommunication

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4 terminal used by the set of the plurality of participants to the
5 conference unit.

1 25. (Presently Amended) The computer-readable
2 medium of claim 21 wherein the detecting comprises
3 determining a use of a speakerphone on the endpoint
4 telecommunication unit.